PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARIAT

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The accompanying communique, dated 21st October 1941, issued by the Government of India, Department of Indians Overseas, New Delhi, is republished for the information of the public.

By Order,
M. G. MEHKRI,
Secretary to Government,
Public Works, Railways and
Electrical Departments.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Department of Indians Overseas.

New Delhi, the 21st October 1941.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

HAJJ PILGRIMAGE—SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS.

Arrangements have been made for sailings during November and December of pilgrim-ships for the approaching Hajj Pilgrimage. In spite of the demands on available shipping by war needs, there will be several sailings from Bombay and Karachi and one from Calcutta. Owing to war conditions actual sailing dates cannot be given but intending pilgrims should reach pilgrim ports by the dates mentioned below and should come prepared to maintain themselves for a delay which may extend to five days. While ships are being provided to make available accomodation for pilgrims to a number considerably in excess of those who travelled last year, pilgrims are advised in their own interest to travel by the earliest convenient sailing as in war conditions it will probably not be possible to provide an extra ship in the event of a last minute rush at the ports.

For the first sailing from Bombay and Karachi, pilgrims should reach those ports at the latest by 10th November and 11th November, respectively. For the Calcutta sailing pilgrims should reach Calcutta by the 17th November 1941. Pilgrims should reach Bombay on the 17th November and Karachi on the 18th November, for the second sailing from these ports. An announcement will be made later about subsequent sailings from Bombay and Karachi.

2. *Fares.*—The steamer fares fixed for this pilgrim season are as follows :—

Fares including food charges and Kamaran quarantine fee.

DECK PASSENGERS.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Bombay to Jedda (return)	203	0	0
Karachi to Jedda (return)	196	0	0
Calcutta to Jedda and back to Bombay	235	8	0

CABIN PASSENGERS.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Bombay to Jedda (return)	744	0	0
Karachi to Jedda (return)	716	0	0
Calcutta to Jedda and back to Bombay	795	0	0

For children under ten years of age these fares will be less by the following amounts on account of food charges :—

DECK PASSENGERS.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Bombay to Jedda	14	0	0
Karachi to Jedda	9	8	0
Calcutta to Jedda and back to Bombay	16	12	0

CABIN PASSENGERS.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Bombay to Jedda	53	8	0
Karachi to Jedda	38	0	0
Calcutta to Jedda and back to Bombay	63	12	0

The increase in this year's fares as compared with last year is explained by the addition of a flat rate of one rupee to meet the increased incidence of Jedda sanitation dues at the ruling rate of exchange, the customary Kamaran quarantine fee of Rs. 3 which was omitted from the fare last year, as no call was made and an element of increase necessitated by the general rise in food prices.